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# San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 4, 2000**

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### **PUBLIC HEARING ON AREA CODE SPLITS**

**San Diego, CA** —On Monday, February 7, 2000 at 2:00 PM, Mayor Susan Golding and the City Council will hold a public hearing on the county wide issues regarding the past and future area code splits in San Diego County. San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn will make a public presentation on the area code split controversy including an overview of the findings from his recent investigation. The Mayor and the City Attorney are encouraging interested members of the public to attend the hearing and give testimony regarding their concerns.

Gwinn is seeking to intervene in the current California Public Utilities Commission proceedings regarding the area code controversy. The Mayor and Council are hoping to receive sufficient input from the public to inform their decision on what position the City should take in protecting the rights of San Diego telephone users.

The Commission began to split up the 619 area code over the last year including adding the 858 and 760 area codes. Soon, they plan to create a 935 area code for East County and South Bay and a 442 area code to split the current 760 area code. The Mayor and City Attorney are hoping to stop the current plan of the Commission and instead to seek a plan that preserves the 619 area code for as many San Diegans as possible.

Consumer advocates, business representatives, and members of the public are expected to testify before the Council. The hearing will be held at 2 PM on Monday, February 7th in the San Diego City Council Chambers at 202 C Street, 12th Floor, in downtown San Diego.